October 12, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Free Press: Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on marijuana dispensaries

"The Michigan Supreme Court heard oral arguments Thursday in one of the most significant legal issues since voters approved medical marijuana — the legality of dispensaries. The justices are faced with a case that involves the shops, where people with medical marijuana cards sell homegrown pot to people who don't grow their own."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court hears medical marijuana case Full story

Associated Press: Mich. Supreme Court hears medical marijuana case *Full story*

City Pulse/Lansing: All eyes on McQueen; Oral arguments before the state Supreme Court heard [Thursday] on major medical marijuana case Full story

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Michigan Supreme Court hears medical marijuana cases

Full story

WKAR News/East Lansing: MI Supreme Court Hears Medical Marijuana Cases Full story

Note: The Associated Press article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Daily Tribune, the Lansing State Journal, the Macomb Daily, the Midland Daily News, the Morning Sun, the Oakland Press, the Port Huron Times Herald and the Traverse City Record-Eagle.

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Michigan Supreme Court to decide whether incriminating statement can be used in Benjamin Willard homicide case

"...The [Michigan Supreme Court] is to decide whether prosecutors can use at trial an incriminating statement made by 19-year-old Kadeem White, who is accused of killing Benjamin Willard on July 6, 2010. White allegedly shot him during a robbery in an alley between Francis Street and Chittock Avenue." Full story

Also see:

Michigan Supreme Court Hears First Oral Arguments of 2012-2013 Session; Two Medical Marihuana Cases, 10 Others to Be Heard Oct. 9-11

Press release

Detroit Free Press: Detroit Free Press Endorsements: The best choices for District Court in Wayne, Oakland counties

"Voters in Oakland and Wayne counties will choose among candidates for open district court seats in Royal Oak, Southfield and Detroit. There are no open or contested district court seats on the Macomb County ballot."

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Former Bashara attorney David Griem admits he wrongly shared evidence

"The former attorney for Bob Bashara — the Grosse Pointe Park man who has been called a suspect in his wife's murder — today admitted responsibility to civil contempt of court charges. David Griem was accused of improperly sharing evidence with Bashara's family and issuing unauthorized subpoenas."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Former Bashara attorney found in civil contempt over evidence-sharing

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Bashara admits plot to have handyman killed

"Bob Bashara, a well-to-do Grosse Pointe Park businessman suspected for months in his wife's slaying, made a surprise confession Thursday when he admitted he tried to orchestrate a hit on handyman Joseph Gentz."

Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Bashara's guilty plea may lead to deal

Full story

AnnArbor.com: Fink vs. Kuhnke: Two attorneys compete for open seat on Washtenaw County's 22nd Circuit Court bench

"Voters on Nov. 6 will get the rare opportunity to fill an open seat on Washtenaw County's 22nd Circuit Court bench and it's a choice between two attorneys who are political opposites.... [Jim] Fink and [Carol] Kuhnke are facing off for a chance to take over the seat being vacated by Melinda Morris, who is retiring."

Full story

Daily Press & Argus: Brian Dickerson: Stripping partisanship from Michigan Supreme Court*

*This column previously appeared in the Detroit Free Press.

"They arrive for endorsement interviews every election cycle looking sheepish, shell-shocked or simply weary with the absurd hypocrisy of their plight, which is to be partisan candidates for the nonpartisan office of Michigan Supreme Court justice."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: Snyder appoints James Erhart to 90th District Court to fill vacancy (second article)

"Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday announced the appointment of James Erhart, of Harbor Springs, to the 90th District Court covering Emmet and Charlevoix counties. His appointment fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Richard May."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: Legal Aid and Defender to award 12 'Laddys' at ceremony Oct. 25

"Ten attorneys, a law firm and an office of corporate counsel will receive 'Laddy' awards from Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. (LAD) at its annual awards ceremony Thursday, Oct. 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. ... Laddy winners are:... Friend of LAD: Lynn M. Davidson, director, Macomb County Friend of the Court;... Ed Porknoy Pioneer of Justice: The Hon. Vera Massey-Jones, a judge of the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan."

Full story

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Royal Farewell: District Judge retires after more than four decades serving city

"After serving on Royal Oak's bench for 32 years, Oakland County 44th District Court Chief Judge Daniel Sawicki is hanging up his robe.... A retirement celebration [was] held in Sawicki's honor on Thursday, Oct. 11, at Red Run Golf Club."

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Judge candidates for St. Joseph County Probate Court tout experience

"It's the kids involved in neglect and abuse cases that draw the two candidates to seek the open seat on the St. Joseph County Probate Court. Attorneys David C. Tomlinson, 54, of Colon, and Christine Yancey, 47, of Mendon, will vie for the position held for the past 24 years by Judge Thomas Shumaker, who announced his retirement at the end of the year.... In district court, attorneys Matt Davidson and Robert Pattison are running to succeed Judge William Welty, who is retiring."

Full story

Macomb County Legal News: Federal judge reflects on 'priceless' experiences

"Judge Damon J. Keith, now in his 45th year on the federal bench, has been asked to give countless speeches during his illustrious legal career. In particular, he has been a sought-after speaker by scores of colleges, including a host of Ivy League schools and other prominent universities across the nation."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Detroit Legal News.

The News-Herald/Southgate: Election 2012: Three Michigan Supreme Court terms to be decided

"Picking judges for the Michigan Supreme Court is at the top of the nonpartisan section of the Nov. 6 election ballot. In an oddity of politics, judicial races are nonpartisan but Michigan Supreme Court candidates are picked by political parties at their conventions."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Friend of the Court panel to meet Oct. 15

"The Oakland County Friend of the Court Citizens Advisory Committee, established by Act 294, 1982, Section 552.504, will meet on Monday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Oakland County Board of Commissioner's Auditorium, Pernick Conference Room, 1200 N. Telegraph Road in Pontiac."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Retirement event planned for Judge Drury

"A host committee has been formed to honor Oakland County 52-4 District Court (Troy and Clawson) Judge Dennis C. Drury, who will retire at the end of 2012. The retirement event will be hosted at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8, at the San Marino Club, 1685 East Big Beaver in Troy." Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Michigan Legal Help center of Oakland County now open

"Residents of Oakland County who are unable to afford an attorney now have a new place to go for assistance - the Michigan Legal Help Self-Help Center of Oakland County.... The Michigan Legal Help Self-Help Center of Oakland County was selected to be part of a pilot project overseen by the Solutions on Self-Help Task Force.... The Task Force was established in 2010 by then Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Marilyn Kelly to improve and coordinate resources for self-represented persons in Michigan." Full story

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: [Oakland County Circuit Judge] Michael Warren (seven minute audio clip) "Regarding [Oakland County Circuit Court] re-election and judicial seats for sale."

Full story